

# Blogging

## What is a blog?

Blog - *noun*. A contraction of weblog, a form of on-line writing characterized in format by a single column of text in reverse chronological order (i.e. most recent content at the top) with the ability to link to individual articles. There is usually with a sidebar displaying links, and the content is frequently updated.

(<http://www.samizdata.net/blog/glossary.html>)

In contrast to other types of websites, blogs are usually authored by one individual, or a small group of members who share ownership.

Another defining characteristic of blogs is that each post is given its own web address known as a **permalink**. This format makes linking to posts and blogs simple because they don't have a long string of seemingly meaningless letters and numbers in their web address.

## What is edublogs.org?

Edublogs.org is the blog hosting site which has been approved for use by Parkland High School. Any other blogging site (such as blogspot.com), or site classified as a blog, will be blocked by the internet filter.

Edublogs.org was designed for use by students and teachers so it has some unique features. For example, if you want your students to each keep their own blog on a certain topic (such as a reading response journal), you can create a blog for each of them that allows you to share administration privileges with them.

## What's all this blogging lingo I keep hearing?

*Dashboard*: the "back end" of your blog. This is the page where you manage your posts, pages, settings, etc. It is not public.

*Page*: on your edublogs.org account, you can create separate whole pages on different topics

*Post*: a post is a single entry on your blog. It is given its own title and web address. You may want to think of a post as a diary entry. They are dated and listed on the website in reverse chronological order.

*Blogroll*: a list of links usually on the right-hand side of a blog. Can be used to link to related blogs, or just links that your readers may find helpful.

*Avatar:* a small picture of your choosing that will be used with your “signature” on the blogging website. You can upload a picture or use a generic one on the site. This is one way to personalize your blogging experience.

*Blogosphere:* the whole of the blogging community, internet-wide.

*Tags:* a post can be assigned tags, or words/phrases briefly identifying its content. For example, a post about the Constitution could be given tags such as “amendment” and “governing document.” The point of tags is to easily classify posts as being on a specific topic, which are then linked to other posts given the same tags. Tags are publicly posted along with each entry.

*Publish:* blog posts and pages will not show up on the web/your blog until you actually publish them. Simply saving a post will not make it publicly available. This allows you to start something and then revise before officially posting it. It also allows you to take something off of your public blog without deleting it permanently.

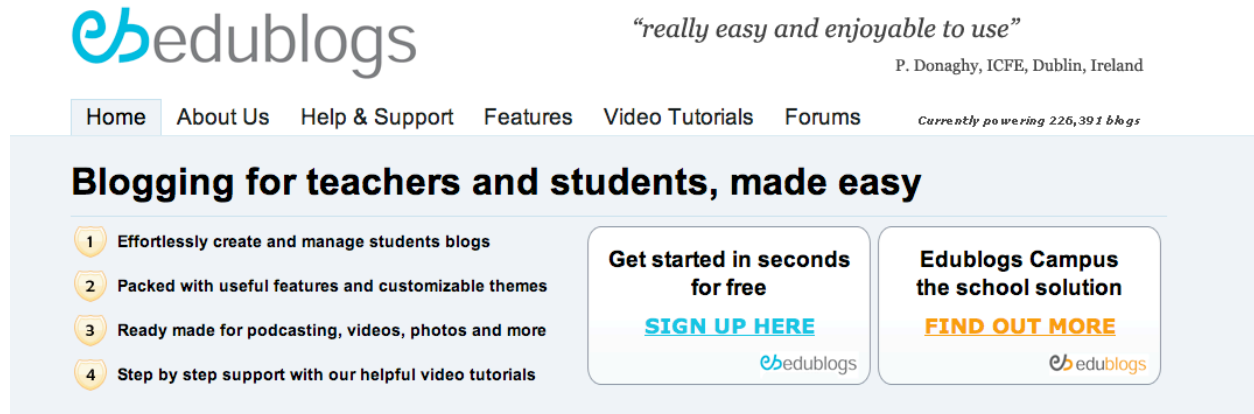
*Comment:* the blogging community exists because of users’ ability to leave comments, or short messages, responding to a post. Blogging websites allow different levels of privacy regarding comments, ranging from “unrestricted” to “members only” to “pending approval by administrator.”

*Settings:* the settings part of a blogging site allows you to control various aspects of your blog: its title, password, the number of posts normally displayed, privacy level, etc. Edublogs.org allows many options on the settings page. Be sure to check out each one in order to completely customize your blog to fit your needs.

## So how do I get started?

1. Create your edublogs.org account. Go to [www.edublogs.org](http://www.edublogs.org)

**\*\* Make sure to use .org when typing the address. Using .com will take you to the wrong place \*\***



The screenshot shows the edublogs.org homepage. At the top left is the edublogs logo. To its right is a quote: "really easy and enjoyable to use" by P. Donaghy, ICFE, Dublin, Ireland. Below this is a navigation bar with links: Home, About Us, Help & Support, Features, Video Tutorials, and Forums. A status bar indicates "Currently powering 226,391 blogs". The main heading is "Blogging for teachers and students, made easy". Below this is a list of four features: 1. Effortlessly create and manage students blogs, 2. Packed with useful features and customizable themes, 3. Ready made for podcasting, videos, photos and more, and 4. Step by step support with our helpful video tutorials. To the right of the list are two call-to-action boxes. The first box says "Get started in seconds for free" with a "SIGN UP HERE" link and the edublogs logo. The second box says "Edublogs Campus the school solution" with a "FIND OUT MORE" link and the edublogs logo.

**edublogs** *"really easy and enjoyable to use"*  
P. Donaghy, ICFE, Dublin, Ireland

Home About Us Help & Support Features Video Tutorials Forums *Currently powering 226,391 blogs*

## Blogging for teachers and students, made easy

- 1 Effortlessly create and manage students blogs
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Get started in seconds  
for free

[SIGN UP HERE](#)

**edublogs**

Edublogs Campus  
the school solution

[FIND OUT MORE](#)

**edublogs**

**IMPORTANT:** When creating your account, edublogs.org will send an email before allowing you to go any further with creating your blog. They will send two emails, one with an activation link and one with a password. You must wait until you get these emails to proceed. I have had problems getting these emails at my parklandsd.org email address. When I tried creating an account using my gmail account address, they came instantly. This glitch may have been fixed, but you may need to use an alternate email address when setting up your account.

2. On the first signup page, you will have to make some decisions regarding your blog's title and domain (official web address)

Home About Us Help & Support Features Video Tutorials Forums *Currently powering 226,397 blogs*

## Blogging for teachers and students, made easy

[find out more](#)

**Get another Edublogs.org blog in seconds**

Welcome back, missutsch. By filling out the form below, you can **add another blog to your account**. There is no limit to the number of blogs you can have, so create to your heart's content, but blog responsibly.

Here are the blogs you already have:

- [missutsch.edublogs.org/](http://missutsch.edublogs.org/)

If you're not going to use a great blog domain, leave it for a new user. Now have at it!

**Blog Domain:**

**Blog Title:**

**Privacy:** I would like my blog to be visible to anyone who visits and in public listings around this site. ☒ Yes ☐ No

**Blog Type:**

**Language:**

[Create Blog »](#)

3. Once your blog has been created, you will be taken to your Dashboard. This is where you will begin to create your blog. You may decide to create your blog's content or design first.

Classroom Blog fake blog Howdy, missutsch! | Log Out | Help | Forums

## Classroom Blog

[Visit Site](#)

[Write](#) [Manage](#) [Design](#) [Comments](#) [Upgrades](#) [Settings](#) [Plugins](#) [Users](#)

**Dashboard** [Promote Your Blog](#)

Scheduled Maintenance: [new time] Saturday 4th October from 8AM CST US (6 AM PST US / 11PM Saturday Australia) we're going to be upgrading the hardware that Edublogs runs on. The site will be unavailable for a few hours from that time. Apologies in advance for any inconvenience.

To prepare for the upgrade we have temporarily disabled any new uploads, avatars, new custom theme header images and domain mapping.

\*\*\*Please note that maintenance will be commencing in the next few minutes, please save any posts\*\*\*

Want to get sneak previews and latest Edublogs news before everyone else hears it? [Follow us on Twitter!](#)

### Dashboard

[Write a New Page](#) [Write a New Post](#)

If you want to start writing pages and posts, click on “Write” and get started.  
If you'd prefer to get creative with backgrounds, colors and fonts, click on “Design.”